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100 RESILIENT CITIES



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ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION PRESIDENT JUDITH RODIN AND 100 RESILIENT CITIES PRESIDENT MICHAEL BERKOWITZ ANNOUNCE WINNERS OF 2014's "100 RESILIENT CITIES CHALLENGE"

*35 Cities from around the World Join a Growing Network of Urban Centers
Better Preparing to Respond to 21st Century Challenges*

Announcement Made at The Rockefeller Foundation's Urban Resilience Summit in Singapore

NEW YORK, December 3, 2014 – 100 Resilient Cities (100RC), pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation, announced today that 35 cities from around the world have been invited to join the 100 Resilient Cities network. The announcement was made during The Rockefeller Foundation's Urban Resilience Summit in Singapore. These cities are:

Accra, Ghana	Deyang, China	San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA
Amman, Jordan	Enugu, Nigeria	Santa Fe, Argentina
Arusha, Tanzania	Huangshi, China	Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic
Athens, Greece	Juarez, Mexico	Santiago, Chile
Barcelona, Spain	Kigali, Rwanda	Singapore, Singapore
Belgrade, Serbia	Lisbon, Portugal	St. Louis, Missouri, USA
Bangalore, India	London, England	Sydney, Australia
Boston, Massachusetts, USA	Milan, Italy	Thessaloniki, Greece
Calí, Colombia	Montreal, Canada	Toyama, Japan
Chennai, India	Paris, France	Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA
Chicago, Illinois, USA	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	Wellington City, New Zealand
Dallas, Texas, USA	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA	

This second wave of cities will join 32 cities that won last year's 100 Resilient Cities Challenge, forming a growing network of urban centers around the world that are ready to respond to the social, economic and physical shocks and stresses that are a growing part of the 21st century. 100 Resilient Cities was created by an initial \$100 million commitment by The Rockefeller Foundation as part of its Centennial last year, recognizing the trends of urbanization and globalization that characterize this century.

"Members of the 100 Resilient Cities network are leading the world in showing that not only is it possible to build urban resilience in every kind of city, but it's an imperative," said Dr. Judith Rodin, President of The Rockefeller Foundation. "Cities are learning that by building resilience, not only will they be better prepared for the bad times, but also life becomes better in the good times, especially for the poor and vulnerable. It's smart investment, and yields a resilience dividend that is a win for everyone."

Why Resilient Cities?

As the number of people living in urban areas grows from 50% of the world's population to an estimated 70% in 2050, cities around the world must cope with effects of rapid urbanization, globalization, climate change, and natural and man-made disasters.

Urban resilience is the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses and systems to survive, adapt and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience. From the impact of super-typhoons, to growing socio-economic inequality or the ability of city systems to respond to booming populations and waning food supplies, 100 Resilient Cities aims to equip urban areas with the tools and support network to design, develop and implement holistic solutions.

"Each city is unique, and through the 100RC network, cities are building on each other's experiences, and learning the best resilience-building techniques," said Michael Berkowitz, President of 100 Resilient Cities. "By connecting cities with each other and to resilience-building experts, we are aiming to create a global practice of scalable resilience solutions, so that cities can respond to the challenges of this urban century more effectively and efficiently."

Building a Global Network of Resilient Cities

The diverse list reflects the need to learn from cities of all sizes across the globe in order to adapt and innovate. The cities in the 100 Resilient Cities network face myriad sets of environmental and social challenges – ranging from rising threats of flooding and extreme weather, to intensifying strains on infrastructure and health systems, and deepening economic stresses – and are on different points of their journey towards building a more resilient metropolis.

Each city on the network is eligible to receive grant funding to hire a Chief Resilience Officer, who will lead the analysis, planning and implementation of the city's resilience strategy, working with different government agencies and across sectors of society. They will also receive technical support and services they need as they work towards implementing that strategy, as well as access a variety of platform partners in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors. These partners will offer tools in areas such as innovative finance, technology, infrastructure, land use, and community and social resilience.

Selection Process

Momentum from last year's inaugural challenge made this year highly competitive, spanning more than 90 countries across six continents. This year's cities were chosen from nearly 350 applicants on the basis of their ability to demonstrate a unique vision for resilience, a long-term commitment to cutting across silos of government and sectors of society, and a special attention to the needs of the poor and vulnerable. Network cities serve as a model for other global cities that seek to build their own resilience.

Member cities were selected upon the recommendation of an international panel of distinguished judges, including former president José María Figueres Olsen of Costa Rica; Dr. Donald Kaberuka, President of the African Development Bank; Dr. Isher Ahluwali, Chairperson for the Board of Governors on the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations; and President and CEO of the Asia Society, Josette Sheeran.

The 100 Resilient Cities Challenge will open for its next round of city applications in mid-2015.

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About 100 Resilient Cities:

100 Resilient Cities—Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation—is financially supported by The Rockefeller Foundation and managed as a sponsored project by Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA), an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides governance and operational infrastructure to its sponsored projects. Learn more about 100RC at www.100resilientcities.org, RPA at www.rockpa.org, and The Rockefeller Foundation at www.rockefellerfoundation.org.

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About the Rockefeller Foundation:

For more than 100 years, The Rockefeller Foundation's mission has been to promote the well-being of humanity throughout the world. Today, The Rockefeller Foundation pursues this mission through dual goals: advancing inclusive economies that expand opportunities for more broadly shared prosperity, and building resilience by helping people, communities and institutions prepare for, withstand, and emerge stronger from acute shocks and chronic stresses. To achieve these goals, The Rockefeller Foundation works at the intersection of four focus areas—advance health, revalue ecosystems, secure livelihoods, and transform cities—to address the root causes of emerging challenges and create systemic change. Together with partners and grantees, The Rockefeller Foundation strives to catalyze and scale transformative innovations, create unlikely partnerships that span sectors, and take risks others cannot—or will not. For more information, please visit www.rockefellerfoundation.org.